

Sunday School Lesson for January 16.

Beginning of the Ministry of Jesus.

Matt. IV; 17-25.

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(The author will publish an Examiner containing one hundred questions on the lessons of the quarter. The Examiner will be mailed in March to any address in any quantity at 2 cents per copy and may be used in oral or written review in a class or by an individual. Orders should be sent to Dr. J. E. Gilbert, Washington, D. C., not later than February 1, that the mailing list may be prepared.)

CONTEXT.—The leading harmonists agree that many events following immediately upon the baptism of Jesus, are omitted by Matthew, but supplied by John and Luke. It is believed that Jesus returned from the wilderness to the Jordan, received the testimony of the Baptist, gained five disciples (John 1:35-51), visited Canaan, attended the marriage feast, went up into a Samaritan town (John 4:4-24). Afterward He visited Nazareth and was rejected (Luke 4:16-29). Matthew then resumes his story (verse 13 to 17), showing the rejection Jesus went to Capernaum, where He made His home. If these views are correct the lesson for the day differs vastly more than it would with this history omitted.

OCCASION.—We see now under what circumstances Jesus began His ministry. From that time He began (verse 13), that is, after a long preparation. The boyhood in Nazareth, the episode in the temple in His twelfth year (Luke 2:22-39), the early manhood of eighteen years of quiet as the reputed son of Joseph the carpenter, the baptism in Jordan by the great Reformer, the tour of observation continued for several months in Galilee and Judea, these were parts of a system by which the Son of God came at last into readiness for His great work. There was no unusual haste. If time and space allowed, it would be easy to show that all this constituted a progressive unfolding of the matchless life, a gradual advance to the function of a public teacher. He dated the beginning of His ministry, or rather Matthew dated it, from the establishment of a home in Capernaum. There He preached, urged men to repent and announcing that the kingdom of heaven was at hand, the very message delivered by John (Matt. 3:1, 2).

FISHERMEN.—It appears that the disciples gained from John (John 1:40), were not permanently attached to Jesus. It is probable that when He called Him and home at Nazareth they returned to their home and occupation. When He began to preach at Capernaum they were not with Him. But after a few days He went to recall them. Walking by the shore He saw Peter and Andrew, casting their nets into the sea (verse 18). These two fishermen had been associated with Heron, but were doubtless ignorant of His nature or mission. What a conversation the brothers may have had in the interval of their separation from the Master, Andrew's word to Simon (John 1:41), indicates that he had some Messianic expectations, and these may have been freely discussed. One thing is that their employment was favorable to reflection and communion. While they sat by the shore, leisurely waiting the fishermen's fortune, they doubtless reflected on the young man, whom for a little time they had followed, wondering when He would again appear.

TELEGRAPH BY TELESCRIPTOR

Invention Enables a Man in Chicago to Type in New York.

A new invention has appeared in Germany which is said to be the greatest advance that has been made in years in the science of telegraphy. By its means a man may sit at a typewriter in Chicago and write a message which will be reproduced in typewriter manuscript in New York, and that without the aid of an operator at the receiving end of the line.

The machine, which is known as the teleprinter, has been exhibited recently in Berlin, where it aroused a great deal of interest among electricians. Its successful operation seems to have solved the problem of a simple and rapid apparatus for writing at a distance. Numerous tests have proved its success.

In its general appearance the teleprinter is very much like a typewriter. The keyboard is composed of seven keys each, which print the letters of the alphabet and the numerals, and which call for the same kind of skill as the ordinary typewriter. The machine is connected with the telegraph or telephone in some manner not yet revealed, but without the use of a special wire. The letters of the message are printed upon the familiar narrow tape in clear type by the writer using the instrument, and the wonderful part of the invention is the fact that if a similar machine is attached to the receiving end of the telephone, it immediately prints the message simultaneously with its composition on the sender's machine.

One of the most apparent advantages this system offers, besides the accurate reproduction of the messages to the owner of a telephone, is that the operator is absent. As soon as the central telephone office makes the connection the machines begin to work and the receiver continues to grind out messages as long as they are sent.

Theoretically the machine is expected to work perfectly at any distance, and for officials, institutions, factories, and for a large number of telegrams are received, the machine is bound to be a great boon, as by means of it messages can be sent directly into the office or home for which they are destined. The rewriting of long dispatches

CALLING.—The voice of Jesus as He stood on the shore, summoned them to their pursuit (verse 19). It was a word of authority that he spoke, "Follow me," calling them to be disciples. In those days a teacher gathered pupils about him and led them from place to place, delivering instruction by word of mouth. The disciple was expected, not only to learn what might be said, but to study the character and spirit of the teacher (Matt. 23:29). The kind of a school was in many respects preferable to our present system in which one is confined to a room and assigned tasks in a book. The education which relies chiefly upon the personality of the teacher is always superior, for he can inspire and guide to the best results. Jesus had a particular object in calling the fishermen and John to be learners. "I will make you fishers of men," He said, employing a figure of speech with which they were familiar. Here a kind of similarity established with two plain mariners. Fishermen are to be made ministers of Christ. The course will be three years. Not Greek and Hebrew, not systematic and pastoral theology, not sacred rhetoric and church history, but Jesus and His word will be the curriculum. The men obeyed (verse 20).

ADDITIONS.—With great promptness Peter and Andrew leaving their nets, accompanied Jesus. He resumed His calling along the shore. Presently the three reached the place where two other fishermen were employed, James and John, the sons of Zebedee. They also had been a short time with Heron and had followed Jesus temporarily. Now, like dutiful sons, they were with their father, mending their nets, preparing to go to sea (verse 21). These were partners with Peter and Andrew (Luke 9:10), sharing their fortunes as members of the fishermen's guild. It was a kind of similarity established with the others, calling them to sea. They immediately left their father and the nets and obeyed (verse 22). Thus in a single day Jesus had gathered to Himself by His own word four of the men whom He afterward appointed apostles (Matt. 8:23-28). Peter, Andrew, James and John—three of whom were admitted into the greatest intimacy (Matt. xviii, 1), as representatives of three distinct types of Christendom. It will be noticed that while Peter was third or fourth at the first calling (John 1:42), he is here named first, propitiously of his subsequent relations to the college (Acts 1:15).

ITINERARY.—After securing these four disciples it is believed that Jesus returned to Capernaum with them, where occurred events omitted by Matthew but recorded by another evangelist (Luke 4:31-43). Going forth thence He entered Nazareth, His birthplace. His first trip to Nazareth being first. None of the sacred writers give any detailed account of His journey, and no one can tell what He did along the way. He was absent. We know, however, that He entered the synagogues (verse 23), showing that He labored there exclusively with the Jewish people, to whom His outward calling to have been sent (Matt. xv, 24). Everywhere He had a two-fold mission. He preached the Gospel of the kingdom, the good news that a heavenly or spiritual reign was to be established in the earth, that for which the nation had hoped and waited so long (Acts 1:6). He also wrought miracles, confined to the time to the healing of disease. His words proved His wisdom, and His works His power. He made no reference to Himself, preferring that the people should judge by what they heard and saw who He was.

is also done away with by the teleprinter, for newspaper correspondents and others having long messages to send need only write them off on the teleprinter, after getting connected with the central office by telephone wires, and their messages will go at once to their objective point without being read by anybody.

At the test the two machines, which were placed in different corners of a room, worked admirably.

The teleprinter is composed in principle of a typewriter furnished with electric contact with each key, so that instantaneous currents can be sent to a line when each is depressed. These currents actuate a polarized electromagnet, which controls the movement of a clockwork mechanism on the axis of which clockwork are a brush that sweeps over a fixed current-distributor with twenty-eight contacts and a type-wheel. The latter is a disk on whose circumference are engraved in relief the letters of the alphabet, the digits and the numerals. It is divided into fifty divisions, of which four are for letters, spaces and four for figure-spaces. A little paper band, for receiving the impression, passes in front of the type-wheel on a movable drum, which is placed at the end of an oscillating lever under the control of a special electromagnet.

The teleprinter can in the first place act like a simple typewriter. Suppose two subscribers who have each a teleprinter. The calling operator first presses down the two levers seen at the left above the keyboard; the other operator presses down only the first of the two levers. The two machines begin to work at once by the aid of the intermittent currents sent over the lines, and the clock movements start. The operators touch the keys exactly as if he were writing on a typewriter, and the teleprinter prints a series of letters forming words are impressed on the strips of paper that roll under his own eyes and under those of the receiver of the message. In the teleprinter the same letter cannot be printed over itself; a single letter is printed at each space. Besides, the strip advances by a constant and regular amount every time that a letter is printed. The letters thus cannot be spaced too widely, nor can they crowd upon one another.

REPUTATION.—The great teacher and miracle worker soon became famous. His name was quickly carried from place to place. It even passed the national house and, entering Syria on the north, spread far and wide throughout that vast country. This fact is highly significant, as showing that in coming time would occur among the Gentiles (Mat. xiii, 6). It is plain, however, that a large part of the interest awakened in Him was due to the displays of His power. Evidently the people cared more for His deeds than His words, for they brought to Him from all directions those that were diseased and tormented (verse 24). Suffering humanity in all distressing forms, those that were possessed of devils, those that were lunatic, those that had the palsy, were laid before Him. The oriental world has always presented deplorable pictures of degradation, most loathsome to the western traveler. All this was spread out before the eyes of Jesus, and His great heart beheld with pity. What might have been expected, the text says, "He healed them." What is this but an object lesson showing what, by an object lesson, Jesus, from the southern section of the Holy Land, from the region beyond Jordan, and what was specially important, from Jerusalem, the seat of the Jewish sects and hierarchies, had seen many thousands assembled to see and hear some notable man who had great cause to present but in this instance the throng journeyed with Jesus, from city to city, on the highways, and crowded about Him wherever He passed. Many of these were doubtless anxious to know who this wonderful Person was, willing to excuse His cause, so soon as they might understand Him. But by far the greater part were curious, whose motives Jesus explained in another place (John vi, 26). And among the crowd were some of the priests, the bigoted, scowling, mercenary agents of the Sanhedrin, who with jealous eyes watched the wonderful Christ, seeking how they might ensnare Him.

FOLLOWING.—We are now to picture to our minds a scene of unparalleled popular enthusiasm. As Jesus continued on His circuit, preaching and healing, a vast concourse of people followed Him. They came from Galilee, the most northern portion of the land, from Decapolis, which lay on the east side of Lake Genesareth, from Judaea, the southern section of the Holy Land, from the region beyond Jordan, and what was specially important, from Jerusalem, the seat of the Jewish sects and hierarchies, had seen many thousands assembled to see and hear some notable man who had great cause to present but in this instance the throng journeyed with Jesus, from city to city, on the highways, and crowded about Him wherever He passed. Many of these were doubtless anxious to know who this wonderful Person was, willing to excuse His cause, so soon as they might understand Him. But by far the greater part were curious, whose motives Jesus explained in another place (John vi, 26). And among the crowd were some of the priests, the bigoted, scowling, mercenary agents of the Sanhedrin, who with jealous eyes watched the wonderful Christ, seeking how they might ensnare Him.

SUMMARY.—Such was the beginning of the ministry of Jesus in Galilee. Preceded by retirement, which made Him familiar with the ordinary life of home, by a introduction which secured the support of good men, by a struggle with Satan which resulted in victory, by an inspection of the country which revealed its needs, He selected the northern metropolis of Capernaum as the center and humble fishermen as companions, thus breaking away from all entanglements with priests, doctors and dignitaries. He went forth to the common people and preached, not philosophy, but the Gospel. With compassion for the suffering He went to their bodies. And in a short time He had gained the ears of thousands who gathered about His way. Here is Divine strategy. By this method Jesus stood on His own merit and rested His claim upon the sober sense of the masses asking no alliance with the rich or great, but receiving what was of incalculable value, the recognition of the poor and needy. His method of Jesus should be adopted by all who seek to win a place in the heart of humanity. He who has something to give to man need not fear that men will refuse him a hearing or a support.

The change of the receiving typewriter into a transmitter is very easily accomplished. All that is necessary is to give a special signal at the end of the communication. The first operator raises the receiver, which in other depresses his, and thus the transmitting instrument becomes a receiver, and the receiver a transmitter.

The device can then be worked like a simple telegraph; if it is left as a receiver, a man finds on returning from an absence the messages that have been sent printed on the strip. It should be added that the machine can write about 125 letters a minute. The teleprinter can also be combined with the telephone; the same wire can serve for both, and messages for either telephone or teleprinter by means of a simple switch.

The teleprinter seems fitted to render great service to industry, because it leaves a printed record of communications. The teleprinter is very useful and renders innumerable services, but if, for example, it is necessary to send an order involving precise and exact measurements, or if corrections are to be sent to the printers—and a whole series of similar cases may be recalled—the telephone may be the cause of errors. The teleprinter gives exact indications in typewritten manuscripts, for they are controlled by the very person who gives them.

POWERFUL MAGNETS. Used to Move Heavy Metal Beams. Simple Manner of Application. Electromagnets capable of picking up a load not exceeding five tons are now used by the Illinois Steel Company to transfer iron or steel beams or plates from one part of the shop to the other. The amount of electricity necessary to give a magnet enough drawing power to make a five-ton load adhere to it is only four amperes at a pressure of 240 volts (equal to one and three-tenths horse-power), or about one-tenth the power required to move an ordinary trolley car on the level. The magnets used are in the form of the old-fashioned horseshoe. The poles of the horseshoe are seven and one-half inches apart, and are connected at the upper end by a soft steel plate one inch in thickness. The poles themselves are each 10 inches long and are elliptical in cross section, being 2 1/2 inches in depth and three inches in width. The upper surface of the poles is covered with coils of insulated copper wire to a depth of one and one-half inches. The working of the magnet is simple. When a plate or beam is lying anywhere else than where it is wanted, the magnet attached to the crane tackle in place of the ordinary sling or hook, is lowered, and its poles placed on the load to be moved, as near the center as practicable. Then the current is turned on and the underlying plate or beam is held fast by the magnetic attraction.

WHAT IS TRIPLE EXTRACT? Process by Which the Odor of Flowers is Obtained. Flowers that are to be used in the manufacture of perfumes, are always gathered at night-fall, or quite early in the morning when the dew is upon them. Before they are gathered, however, receptacles are prepared for them in the shape of large frames, over which are stretched cotton cloths well saturated with olive oil or almond oil. The cut flowers are brought in, and are thickly spread on a frame; then another frame is fitted over it, and that, in turn, is well spread with flowers; then a third frame is fitted over, and a second spread of flowers, and thus the work goes on, until a huge pile of flowers is prepared.

This flower-heap is left for two days; at the end of which time the flowers are removed from the frames and replaced by fresh ones. The frames are filled and emptied every two days until two weeks have passed. Then the cloths are detached from the frames and placed under great pressure, and all the oil is pressed out of them. The oil thus obtained is heavily charged with the fragrance of the flowers, and it is mixed with double its weight of very pure rectified spirit and put in a vessel called a "digestor," which is simply a porcelain, or block-tin, kettle that fits in another kettle. When in use, the outer vessel is filled with boiling water. In this vessel the mixture of oil and spirits "digests" for three or four days; then, after having cooled, the spirit is decanted into another vessel, holding the same quantity of fragrant oil, and the digesting process is repeated. After being thus digested three times, the spirit is found to have taken up enough of the perfume and it is then decanted from the oil for the third and last time through a tube, one end of which is filled with cotton wool to serve as a filter. The fluid thus prepared is called "triple extract."

WHO THE TALL MAN WAS. A tall man in black clothes of no particular style entered a Broadway jewelry shop the other day and asked to see a watch, says the New York Sun. The clerk, sizing him up for a poor country parson, who he would be well rid of, produced an \$20 timepiece, a diamond-studded watch, which he presented to the stranger. The stranger looked it over and asked to see something better. Winking to the cashier, the clerk reached for a specially made chronometer, the price of which he felt would be a squelcher. The seedy man examined the watch and inquired its value. "Ah," observed the customer, "let me see a chain, please." An expensive chain was produced, and then the visitor selected a valuable charm which had been removed for exhibition only. The stranger stuck the jewelry into his vest pocket, and the clerk, fearing that he might have entertained a thief, kept close to the suspect, who quietly fished out a big roll of bills, and quickly flashed \$1,000 gold certificates upon the counter. Utterly phased, the salesman remarked that it was customary to keep the names of customers to identify goods if lost by purchasers. "My names is Jones," said the stranger; "Senator Jones, Nevada. You may address me at the capitol." And the silver senator, taking the change for his gold certificates, departed.

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